

51204

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Confirmation No.: 5141
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Hiroyuki IKEUCHI et al.	:	Art Unit: 1796
	:	
Serial No.: 10/577,355	:	Examiner: S. Sastri
	:	
Filed: April 28, 2006	:	
	:	
For: PARTICULATE WATER-ABSORBENT	:	
RESIN COMPOSITION AND ITS	:	
PRODUCTION PROCESS	:	

**RESPONSE AFTER FINAL**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the March 9, 2010 Office Action in connection with the above-identified application. In view of the following comments, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

**Rejection of Claims 1 and 4-16**

Claims 1 and 4-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0157318 to Brehm et al. Brehm et al. is cited for allegedly disclosing a water-absorbent resin as in the claimed invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Action does not establish *prima facie* obviousness of the claimed invention. Specifically, the Action has not demonstrated that it